

**AGENDA
STAFF WORKSHOP #1**

**Guidelines for Reducing Bird and Bat
Impacts from Wind Development in California
Docket # 06-OII-1**

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2006

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California

Hearing Room A

Workshop Objectives:

- Provide information on upcoming workshops and anticipated schedule for public participation;
- Discuss issues raised at the June 9th hearing and in comment letters (how guidelines relate to CEQA);
- Discuss how guidelines relate to wildlife protection laws with CDFG/USFWS representatives; and
- Obtain feedback from workshop participants on approaches to key issues.

10:00 – 10:20 Introductions, Workshop Objectives, and Agenda Review

- *Paul De Morgan, RESOLVE*

10:20 – 10:30 Schedule for Future Workshops and Public Participation

- *Misa Ward, CEC Siting Division*

10:30 – 11:00 Presentations on Relationship of Guidelines to CEQA, State and Federal Law

- *Kerry Willis, CEC Senior Staff Council*
- *Scott Flint, California Department of Fish and Game*
- *Al Manville, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

11:00 – 12:00 Discussion

Topic: How these guidelines will relate to wind turbine-related fatalities of protected birds and bats, and how they will be compatible with state and federal wildlife protection laws.

Question: How should California guidelines be used by lead agencies? For example, should they be provided to wind developer applicants at the beginning of the application process, used to evaluate environmental documents, or incorporated into general plans or zoning ordinances?

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 – 1:45 **Determining Pre-Construction Study Needs**

- What sort of ranking procedure, if any, should be used to determine duration and intensity of pre-construction studies?
 - What constitutes a “very sensitive site” in California? (e.g., possible presence of special status species, important migratory corridors, raptor concentrations?)
 - What level of effort is required to determine if a site is “very sensitive”? Is a reconnaissance survey and desk-based information gathering sufficient, or is additional fieldwork required to make that determination?
 - Does a “very sensitive site” warrant two or more years of baseline pre-construction information gathering (Canada guidelines)?
 - In what circumstances are nocturnal surveys for bats and migrating songbirds warranted?

1:45 – 2:15 **Post-Construction Monitoring**

- Should California guidelines include recommendations for minimum/maximum number of years for conducting post-construction studies?
 - What factors should determine the range of years that might be appropriate to recommend for post-construction monitoring?
- Should post-construction monitoring data be publicly available?

2:15 – 2:30 **Break**

2:30 – 3:10 **Post-Construction Management**

- What process should California guidelines recommend for reviewing monitoring data and making post-construction management decisions?
 - Are there models of successful use of adaptive management on wind energy projects?
 - Is formation of a Technical Advisory Committee a useful approach to assist in post-construction management decisions?

3:10 – 3:50 **Mitigation**

- What mitigation options should California guidelines include (e.g., operations and lighting modifications, habitat modifications, habitat acquisition, and/or conservation easements)?

3:50 – 4:00 **Next Steps**

- *Paul De Morgan, RESOLVE*
- *Misa Ward, CEC Siting Division*

4:00 **Adjourn**